

JANUARY

SIXTH YEAR — No. 58

# International Review of the Red Cross



*Inter arma caritas*

1966

GENEVA

INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS

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# INTERNATIONAL REVIEW OF THE RED CROSS

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## BOOKS AND REVIEWS

## FRENCH EDITION OF THE REVIEW

The French edition of this Review is issued every month under the title of *Revue internationale de la Croix-Rouge*. It is, in principle, identical with the English edition and may be obtained under the same conditions.

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## SUPPLEMENTS TO THE REVIEW

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### SPANISH

Dr. P. Gregoric : Plan de acción para la difusión de los Convenios de Ginebra. — Se reconoce a la Cruz Roja del Niger (462ª Circular).

### GERMAN

Anerkennung des Roten Kreuzes von Niger (462. Rundschreiben). — Aktionsmöglichkeiten des Roten Kreuzes in Afrika. — Eine Veröffentlichung über Rotkreuzbriefmarken.

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## XXth INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OF THE RED CROSS

*Our November 1965 issue outlined the main aspects of the Vienna conference from October 2-9, 1965, and it also gave the texts of the resolutions adopted.*

*The importance of the proceedings and the team spirit which prevailed at the meetings of the three commissions are well known. The constructive work at their sessions never failed to ensure a full attendance by all delegates, and it was accomplished thanks, inter alia, to the valuable contacts established both during sessions and at the several receptions so generously offered by the host to the conference. Upon their return to their own countries, the National Society and government delegates will be able to examine the results achieved and draw conclusions from the relevant texts, particularly from those on the problem of dissemination of the rules of humanitarian law. It is also in this field that the ICRC has an enormous task before it, one which it hopes to complete in time for the next International Conference to be held in Istanbul in 1969. The International Review will revert to this subject in subsequent numbers, with studies on the wide issues involved in Vienna.*

*The XXth Conference was an assertion on a practical plane of the Red Cross spirit ; this was already felt at the official opening. This ceremony took place on October 2 in the reception hall of the Hofburg Palace and was enhanced by a performance of works by A. Bruckner, Mozart and Beethoven. After the Austrian National Anthem, the assembly was addressed successively by Mr. H. von Lauda, Mr. A. François-Poncet, Mr. S. A. Gonard, Mr. J. A. MacAulay and Mr. J. Klaus. We could hardly better convey the atmosphere of the conference than by reproducing extracts of their speeches :*

## XXth INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OF THE RED CROSS

*Mr. Hans von Lauda, President of the Austrian Red Cross :*

The Austrian Red Cross has the honour to act as host to the XXth International Conference of the Red Cross in Vienna. As President of this Society, I welcome you warmly and thank you for your participation.

This Conference has important and difficult tasks. At a time of great tension in the political sphere, representatives of Governments and organisations from all parts of the world are meeting here with the aim of together serving the cause of humanity. Some 156 representatives of Governments and about 350 Delegates of National Societies from 106 countries will discuss questions of undoubted importance to mankind. In the age of atomic weapons we must recognize that the spirit of humanity is at the very basis of our existence. Whereas earlier it was a question of giving at least a minimum of help to people suffering in war, now we have to fight for the very preservation of the human race . . .

An International Conference of the Red Cross has already once been held in Vienna. Since then almost 70 years have passed. The world of those times has completely changed as has our homeland. Austria is today a neutral State whose main aim it is to act as an intermediary between people of opposed views. I think that Vienna is today more suited than ever before to be the site of an International Conference of the Red Cross. It is to be hoped that the fact that we are meeting on neutral ground will contribute to promoting friendly co-operation.

This Conference will be a milestone in the history of the Red Cross. We all feel that a heavy responsibility lies on our shoulders. It is my wish that regardless of all differences in outlook we shall unite in the spirit of the Red Cross.

*Mr. André François-Poncet, Chairman of the Standing Commission of the International Red Cross :*

. . . In coming to Vienna the XXth International Conference of the Red Cross was therefore assured of finding a place well-suited to its work. In addition, the fact that it is meeting in this city has special significance. Neutrality is one of the principles on which the

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Red Cross bases its action. It refuses to allow politics to interfere with its undertakings. Faithful to the rules which constitute its strength, it continues its work, transcending controversies and rivalries which divide nations or human groupings.

Here, on the shores of the Danube, this concept of neutrality is outstandingly observed. The modern Republic of Austria has made it its law. This law has been freely adopted and put into practice with sincerity and in a dynamic way. Whilst ensuring the future destiny of the country, it has earned it the respect of all peoples . . .

. . . We are therefore very grateful to the Austrian Red Cross for acting as host to the XXth International Conference of the Red Cross in the capital of its country. It was here in Vienna, as early as 1897, that the VIth Conference was held. But to organize such a Conference in 1965 means a much greater burden than 68 years ago. We cannot thank, praise and congratulate President von Lauda enough for having assumed this difficult task in addition to managing the Austrian Red Cross with such distinction and authority. In spite of his many responsibilities as one of the most prominent personalities in Austrian industrial and economic life, he has made a great personal effort in preparing, with the assistance of his Government, the meetings of this Conference. In doing so he has displayed unparalleled devotion and self-sacrifice. We wish today to pay tribute to him and to his collaborators who have all joined in this excellent work of preparation.

Eight most eventful years have now elapsed since the last International Conference. Our Organization has had to employ considerable means to alleviate the suffering left in the wake of those events. But, at the same time, the prestige and presence of the Red Cross in the world have been extended and consolidated. The movement created by Henry Dunant and his colleagues on the Committee of Five celebrated its Centenary in Geneva two years ago. It has now come to embrace the whole world. Its authority is recognized everywhere. The number of affiliated National Societies is steadily increasing. And yet the tasks it faces are enormous. Everywhere in the world the need for assistance remains in one form or another, in spite of the tremendous progress of science. This calls for perseverance on our part so as to be better equipped to accomplish our task.

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Our role continually gains in importance as we are an indispensable element of support to governments which are becoming increasingly aware of their social responsibilities. Undoubtedly, our civilisation is marked by extraordinary material progress and by breath-taking discoveries. The control man has over matter has reached overwhelming proportions. Our life is dominated by the precision of such sciences as mechanics, physics, chemistry and mathematics. But science is inexorable. Its laws are inescapable. There is no pity in them. Machines and robots have no soul. A society enjoying the utmost material perfection may still be a barbaric society.

This is the danger which threatens the future of mankind.

To combat this danger we have to cultivate moral values, to place more emphasis on the heart in our everyday life, to still with all our might the winds of violence sweeping the world of today. This is the goal which the Red Cross has voluntarily set for itself and which it strives to attain with the zeal inspired by faith.

As our movement enjoys the support of vast sections of the population, of youth and people of all social classes and denominations, the Red Cross will not fail to achieve excellent results. Although human nature is too often dominated by the forces of evil, it also has a natural instinct for good, which must find expression in action . . .

*Mr. Samuel A. Gonard, President of the International Committee of the Red Cross :*

. . . At no time in the history of mankind has there been an institution, a political or religious movement which has been able to assemble the representatives of such a large number of countries in one hall in support of the same ideal.

I would like each one of you to realize the significance of this event and its solemnity. It is in fact the consummation of one of the fundamental principles of the Red Cross, that is its universal character. It answers Henry Dunant's appeal, an appeal which you will remember is made " to all mankind " and, in a more restricted sense, " to each race, country and family, since no one can say that he is safe from the hazards of war."



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Imagine that at this very moment the attention of the peoples of the whole world is focused on this very hall where we are sitting. Imagine that everyone is asking whether we will once again accomplish our undertaking that is none other than adopting or improving, by common agreement, the principles limiting man's suffering and guaranteeing the respect due to him. Is it then permissible for us to disappoint everyone's hope and neglect the unique chance offered to us to come closer together? The only effective way of denouncing the horrors of war is for us to agree on the work common to us all, which is a work of humanity.

Man, with whom we are concerned today, who counts on our help and can only count on it, must not be deceived. By coming to Vienna we have implicitly promised to come to his aid. That is an immense and serious task. We are not too numerous to accomplish it.

The work of the Red Cross must be universal. This means above all that no people, no human being, should doubt the reason for its existence. And it also means that every single person must be convinced of its impartiality. All of us here present have interest in admitting that there exists an institution in the world acting above political, racial or religious considerations, outside all influences and pressures and which is consequently regarded as being impartial in all places and in all circumstances. Yes, it is indeed in our interest and is our chance of salvation! And if this institution were not to exist, we would have the moral duty of creating it.

Present-day technology enables the inhabitants of the remotest countries to learn of pleasant or unfortunate events as they take place in any corner of the globe. These events extend and also determine our responsibility and never have threats of war or hopes of peace preoccupied so many men at the same time.

Everyone knows, having heard it day after day, that peace is a vulnerable and fragile edifice. Each person thinks he knows that he possesses a means of protecting and consolidating it. It is not for the Red Cross to judge means or decide between methods. It would have indeed been presumptuous on the part of its founders to wish to set up a court and believe that all peoples would submit to its judgment. However, the Red Cross has taken upon itself a more immediate and consequently a more effective task: that of giving aid. We see that this is at the same time a means of fighting for peace. If all govern-

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ments which are represented here have admitted, by signing the treaty, that they recognize the humanitarian principles of the Geneva Conventions and approve their application, then they have at the same time recognized the loathsome character of war.

We thus have every reason to think that our work is good and based on solid foundations. When all international organizations have been disbanded and all meetings have failed, the Red Cross remains the only living link between the peoples. This is because we believe, because we ought to believe that its action is impartial.

The International Committee of the Red Cross in whose name I have the honour of speaking here, expects this Conference to fulfil the hopes of all those who have placed their confidence in our institution and that it will reaffirm its determination, everywhere and completely, to accomplish the humanitarian mission with which it has been entrusted . . .

*Mr. John A. MacAulay, Chairman of the Board of Governors of the League of Red Cross Societies :*

. . . The League of Red Cross Societies was founded on May 5, 1919. The League is described in its Constitution as the International Federation of National Red Cross Societies, an association of unlimited duration. The League acts as the permanent organ of liaison, co-operation and study between the National Red Cross, Red Crescent and Red Lion and Sun Societies, with a view to assisting them in the organisation and exercise of their activities, both national and international. The League co-operates with the Red Cross Societies in all aspects of their activities, particularly in the improvement of health, the mitigation of suffering and the prevention of diseases . . .

. . . The League represents millions of voluntary workers to whom the movement owes an extreme debt of gratitude. The officers of the League have the honour to represent these volunteer members on this very important occasion.

Since the birth of the League, it has seen wars and major human catastrophes. The blind forces of nature have, on many occasions, overwhelmed the puny breastworks of man. In each and every

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instance, from every corner of the globe, the response came flooding in to meet the challenge . . .

. . . In all these disasters to which I have referred, the worldwide Red Cross has mobilized through the League to speed relief to the victims. It is a matter of record that during the last ten years every individual Society contributed to disaster relief in other lands. This is an amazing demonstration of international solidarity . . .

. . . Perhaps the greatest drain on finances and personnel in the last few years has been the refugee problem.

The largest refugee operation ever undertaken by the League was in 1959 when we were asked to act as agent for the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees in looking after 285,000 Algerian refugees in Tunisia and Morocco. This operation continued from 1959 to 1963 when the refugees were able to return to their homes. With the League's organisation and experience it was able to carry out the operation at a minimum cost . . .

. . . Reference could also be made to various other activities of the League which have not been mentioned. The Development Programme of the League is more particularly designed to teach and help new Societies. It was accepted with fervour and enthusiasm, first by a small number of Societies and ultimately was adopted unanimously by the Board of Governors. It is presently planned on a five-year basis. All necessary support must be given to this important programme by League members. I know that the National Societies will meet this challenge.

One of the most important roles of the League is to do everything in its power to foster the cause of peace in the world. We must continue and we must accelerate our activities for which the Nobel Peace Prize was awarded. The League must give dynamic leadership in this respect.

I referred in my earlier observations to the fact that the gift of great and continuing institutions was a splendid gift. We are the inheritors of a great tradition and in our hands is responsibility that the lustre does not dim nor shrink in the shadows.

*Mr. Josef Klaus, Chancellor of the Austrian Federal Republic :*

In a letter to Henry Dunant about his famous book, *A Memory of Solferino*, Victor Hugo wrote: " You have a love of humanity."

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These words also portray in a striking manner the pursuit of that great movement, the Red Cross.

At Solferino, Henry Dunant realized that increasing danger must be met with greater help; more effective means of destruction with more effective and general relief; organized killing with organized charity. Thus did he create the Red Cross. And the Red Cross undertook this vast task and accomplished it in exemplary fashion. In a world in which the forces of mass destruction—indiscriminate and ever increasing—do not spare those who would have escaped the consequences of war in previous centuries, the Red Cross has become a powerful moral force for the safeguard of human dignity and life.

Therein lies the profound significance of the unselfish relief given to the wounded and prisoners, the tracing of missing persons during and after the world wars and the re-uniting of families. This force, going beyond frontiers, differences in uniform, nationality, race and religion, is the force of all people of good will and at the same time it was admirably symbolic of a living solidarity even when hate and terror threatened completely to overwhelm humanity and make man forget that the enemy too was a man.

Born of the horrors of war, the Red Cross also tackles other important tasks. Wherever natural disasters, epidemics, earthquakes and floods have inflicted suffering, the Red Cross is present. It brings aid and by so doing often averts yet worse disaster. It has also made reality of another great idea, namely, solidarity among men, for help to one's neighbour in distress no matter who he is. It has given fresh significance to traditional family and community mutual aid by transforming it into brotherly aid of man to man within the international community.

In order for these ideas, which are so important in a world where shrinking distances bring contrasts into the limelight, to be of lasting good and a moral force for humanity, it is now imperative that they be inculcated into the youth of all nations. And the education given to the Junior Red Cross is, as it were, a guarantee that those ideas will be implanted in the hearts of future generations . . .

. . . Humanity began to understand that it is a single community and to give proof of this understanding, not only by sharing the same sufferings, but also the same idea of mutual assistance: to

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see in the person of a foe, as well as in a friend, a man, and give him succour when he is in need. The ICRC and the Geneva Conventions are as the first steps towards a united world, a future we can glimpse where humanity lives in peace and security.

Our country is keenly aware of the honour bestowed on it by your meeting in Vienna. Austria has been sorely tried by the disaster of the two world wars. But it has also particularly benefited from the blessed work of the Red Cross. I would therefore not wish to let pass this opportunity of expressing the profound gratitude of the Austrian people towards the members of the Red Cross, both national and international, for the immeasurable humanitarian work accomplished for their benefit in times of great distress. We extend the wish that your work here be completely successful, for the good of all humanity. This is the sentiment I have uppermost in declaring open the XXth Conference of the Red Cross.

## **In Japan**

### **AVIATION AND RADIO IN THE SERVICE OF THE RED CROSS**

Japan is a country where nature is by no means benign and where men are often sorely tried by the violence of the elements; in addition, the configuration and population distribution add further to the difficulties.

Long and narrow, consisting of four main and countless lesser islands of varying size, Japan is known to be afflicted with volcanos and earthquakes. Some of these are of little significance and take place daily, but it happens that these phenomena sometimes occur with devastating force without warning, the consequences being disastrous.

The sea too is dangerous, not only because of typhoons, but also because of its currents, its reefs, and especially its tidal waves, when huge walls of seawater smash their way inland, destroying everything in their way. Every day, ships are in distress and bathers in danger.

In summer come the typhoons, beating the tropical seas to fury and sweeping away trees and houses over vast areas of the land. In their wake, harvests are utterly destroyed. With it the wind brings rain, torrential rain, swelling the rivers and bringing all traffic to a standstill. Snow too is abundant, particularly in the north and north-west of the country and sometimes falls so rapidly that cars and trains are forced to a stop and are blocked in out-of-the-way places until help arrives to free them.

In order to bring assistance as quickly as possible to populations stricken by natural disasters, in places which are isolated and difficult of access, the Japanese Red Cross has set afoot two relief services, each of which is unique of its kind: a flying corps and a radio service.

\* \* \*

At the beginning of 1963, a private civilian organization, the Japan Flying Association, volunteered its services to the Japanese Red Cross. The National Society immediately accepted this generous offer and after several months' study and preparation, the "Red Cross Flying Service" was inaugurated on November 3, 1963.

At the beginning there were 14 volunteers; there are now 18, all of them civilian pilots and nearly all of them flying instructors for the Association. According to the law, they are obliged to do a certain number of flying hours each month and rather than undertake aimless trips, they desired the flying hours they spend in practice to be of some use to the public in general; hence their offer to the Red Cross. In addition, they are ready to take to the air any time their services may be required by the Red Cross.

For this purpose, the Association maintains three or four of its aircraft in constant readiness for take-off. It has various types of aircraft, namely: Cessna, Piper-Pacer, Aeronca, Moram-Saulnier. When the Association receives the "action stations" from the Japanese Red Cross headquarters in Tokyo, all that need be done for these private planes to become Red Cross aircraft is to fix the red cross emblem on the wings and fuselage, whereupon they are ready to carry out their humanitarian missions.

When the Red Cross Flying Service started operating it had its base at Fujisawa airport, 30 miles south-west of Tokyo. Its base has since been transferred to Ryugasaki aerodrome, 30 miles north-east of Tokyo in the Ibaraki prefecture. Under the terms of various contracts signed during the planning period, the Red Cross aircraft may land at almost every aerodrome in Japan.

The main functions undertaken by the Red Cross aircraft are: transport of sick living in places which are isolated or cut off; transport of medical supplies, particularly blood for emergencies; and patrolling areas where people are in danger as a result, for example, of natural disaster or for any other reason<sup>1</sup>.

These patrols are very important, for it is often on the basis of the observations made by the pilots that the central headquarters

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<sup>1</sup> *Plate*: Aviation in the service of the Red Cross, above the beaches and in the mountains.

of the Japanese Red Cross in Tokyo can decide what type of assistance is required in regions affected by disaster.

At present a study is being made of the possibility of flying complete teams of relief workers (doctors, nurses, secretaries) to the islands or to isolated places. Difficulties however are by no means inconsiderable and have not yet been solved.

Readers will undoubtedly be interested in some examples of activities carried out by the Red Cross Flying Service.

When Niigata was ravaged by an earthquake in June 1964, responsible officials of the Relief Section of the Japanese Red Cross Headquarters flew from Tokyo to the scene of the disaster in a Red Cross plane. From their on-the-spot observations, it was realized that the population's most immediate need was light. Instructions were immediately issued and on the very same day other aircraft brought into Niigata one and a half tons of candles. These were parachuted to the Red Cross Centre of the Niigata Prefecture, which immediately distributed them to the victims, hospitals and the town hall. In the days following, the aircraft transported other relief material such as clothing, food, etc.

In January 1965, a huge fire broke out on the island of Oshima, at the entrance to Tokyo Bay, about 62 miles south of the capital. A seriously wounded victim who could not be treated on the island was evacuated by a Red Cross plane to Tokyo.

In June 1965, the Yonago hospital in the Tottori Prefecture in the Japan Sea needed blood of the RH-negative type for an urgent surgical operation. This rare type of blood could not be obtained locally. It was brought by plane from the Japanese Red Cross Central Blood Bank in Tokyo, a journey of almost 375 miles.

In July and August of 1964 and 1965, when sea bathing was at its height, the Red Cross aircraft were almost continuously on patrol above the very crowded beaches within easy reach of Tokyo. It not infrequently occurs that swimmers are carried out to sea by currents or that sailing boats are capsized, unobserved by the people on the beaches. In the summer of 1965 eighteen people in peril were spotted by these Red Cross aircraft which flew low enough to drop life-buoys and give encouragement and instructions through loud-speakers before calling upon and, again by loud-speaker, guiding life-boats or fishing vessels in the vicinity. All



these people were saved. In addition, the planes made several sorties to trace fuel oil pollution by ships, which might have endangered swimmers. In carrying out these missions in the course of the summer of 1965, the Red Cross aircraft logged over 250 flying hours.

From the summer of 1966 onwards, the aircraft will carry out similar patrols in other regions of the country where they appear necessary. The Japanese Red Cross is already preparing for these operations.

The present ambition of the Japan Flying Association is to be able to operate a mountain rescue service for mountaineers and skiers, as in Switzerland. Experience is lacking however, so it would be imprudent for the Association to launch out into such a venture. It would like to send some of its members to Switzerland for training, but this is beyond its means.

The selflessness and spirit of these pilots who, in a few months of often dangerous activity have already saved a number of human lives, command admiration, and their sole aim is to increase their contribution to the Red Cross cause and their service to those in peril.

\* \* \*

The Japanese penchant for and skill with such appliances as telephones, cameras and wireless is well known, and many are the radio enthusiasts with their own transmitting and receiving sets. For a long time they have had their own association, the Japan Amateur Radio League which, in 1957, offered to serve the Japanese Red Cross.

The Japanese National Society itself has several transmitting and receiving stations: one at the Tokyo headquarters and nine others in various provinces, two of which are mobile. Each one has its own petrol-driven power unit. The maintenance of these stations is done by members of the Radio League.

There is no continuous monitoring service. In case of need the members of the Radio League can be called upon to man their stations as soon as possible. In Tokyo, despite its enormous size, it is reckoned that the Red Cross headquarters station can be ready to operate within half-an-hour of call-out.

## AVIATION AND RADIO

The system is very simple; it does not require an exacting service of the members in addition to their normal work, and yet it is efficient. There was an excellent example during the Niigata earthquake in 1964, which was mentioned above. When this disaster occurred at about one o'clock in the afternoon, strong earth tremors were felt even in Tokyo. The Red Cross central headquarters immediately gave the alert to the Amateur Radio League, but some members were already on their way to take up their stations, so that in very little time they were ready to operate. At Niigata itself, where the telephone system was disrupted, the Radio League members went on their own initiative to the local Society headquarters. It took them some time to get there, for the streets were caved in (in some places motor cars disappeared into the yawning rents of the surface) and the bridges had collapsed. However, by the end of the afternoon they were able to transmit—several hours ahead of the press and government radio services. On that day the newspapers and government offices depended on the Red Cross in Tokyo for information.

The question of maintaining a continuous monitoring service has been considered. One psychological factor shows this to be unnecessary: amateur radio enthusiasts on the air are voluble. In Japan, there are always some conversing at all hours of the day and night. If something happens in their neighbourhood, a fire, an earthquake or train accident, they immediately relay the news to their far off correspondents.

Consequently news spreads quickly and when received in Tokyo, the Red Cross headquarters is soon informed and can take whatever action is required.

In this way the Japan Amateur Radio League is remarkably efficient with a very simple organization, thanks to the dedication of its members and their desire to serve.

**Risaburo KIUCHI,**  
Vice-Director, Foreign Affairs Department  
of the Japanese Red Cross

**Michel TESTUZ,**  
ICRC Delegate to Japan

# INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS

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## **Recognition of the Red Cross Society of Niger**

GENEVA, DECEMBER 2, 1965

*Circular No. 462*

*To the Central Committees of the National Red Cross,  
Red Crescent, Red Lion and Sun Societies*

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

We have the honour to inform you of the official recognition on December 2, 1965, by the International Committee of the Red Cross of the Red Cross Society of Niger.

The new Society, founded in 1963, applied for recognition by letter under date of August 30, 1965. The application was accompanied by the Society's Statutes, an Annual Report and by the Decree of September 7, 1965, by which the Red Cross of Niger was recognized as auxiliary to the public authorities.

These documents, which have been studied jointly with the Secretariat of the League of Red Cross Societies, have shown that the ten conditions for recognition of a new Society by the International Committee have been duly fulfilled.

The International Committee of the Red Cross has therefore pleasure in announcing recognition of this Society, which brings the number of member Societies of the International Red Cross to one hundred and six.

## INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE

For the past two years, the Red Cross of Niger has accomplished a remarkable task and is at present making great efforts to develop the humanitarian work it has undertaken, especially as regards first-aid, the teaching of hygiene, assistance to the needy and aid to the victims of natural disasters. To date the Red Cross of Niger has established thirteen local committees, well distributed to meet the requirements of the population.

The Red Cross of Niger is under the authority of an Administrative Council, presided over by Mrs. Hélène Bassy ; its Secretary-General is Dr. Tahirou Bana. The headquarters of the Society are at Niamey.

By its declaration of continuity of April 23, 1964, the Republic of Niger has become the 100th State party to the Geneva Conventions of 1949.

The International Committee of the Red Cross has great pleasure in welcoming this new Society into the International Red Cross, accrediting it by this notice to all other National Societies and recommending it to their kind attention. It expresses its best wishes for the Society's future and for the success of its humanitarian work.

FOR THE INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE  
OF THE RED CROSS

**Samuel A. GONARD**, *President*

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*EXTERNAL ACTIVITIES***India and Pakistan**

*Prisoners of war.* — On December 3, 1965, two representatives of the ICRC, Mr. Roger Du Pasquier (delegate in India) and Mr. Michel Martin (delegate in Pakistan) accompanied by Mr. Jacques Moreillon (assistant delegate in India) and by members of the National Red Cross Societies of India and Pakistan met between the lines for an exchange of parcels for prisoners of war of the two parties in conflict.

This exchange took place in a sector where the cease-fire line corresponds with the old frontier between the two countries. A neutral zone of almost 500 yards separates the most advanced military outpost from the frontier itself. The Pakistan post is sited the same distance from the frontier.

Liaison was made from the Indian side by a naval officer from Ceylon, an observer to the UNO Control Commission.

Mr. Du Pasquier and Mr. Moreillon then went alone to the frontier line where they were joined shortly afterwards by Mr. Martin and two officers in United Nations service.

The ICRC representatives afterwards made an exchange of parcels, 370 for Pakistani prisoners of war and 363 for Indian prisoners. These parcels were distributed by each of the National Societies supervised by the delegates of the ICRC. Recipients signed receipts in each case.

The International Committee hopes to arrange in the near future a further exchange of parcels, including those addressed personally to prisoners by their relatives in addition to parcels sent anonymously.

The ICRC delegates are continuing their efforts on both sides in order to obtain all nominal rolls of prisoners of war.

In India, the delegates have been successful in having arrangements made for Pakistani parachutists, who have been recognized as having prisoner of war status, to begin to be transferred to Agra camp. The ICRC delegates are also concerning themselves actively in India and in Pakistan with the condition of wounded and sick prisoners of war.

*First releases of crews.* — The ICRC had had its attention drawn by the Indian and Pakistani authorities to difficulties encountered by the crews of several vessels of the merchant navy held in ports of the adverse Party when hostilities first broke out. The delegates had obtained nominal rolls of these detainees and had requested authorization to visit them.

The crews of two Indian ships retained in Pakistan have recently been released. Continued representations are being made on behalf of other seamen who are still interned.

*Visits to camps and relief for refugees.* — At the end of November, Mr. R. Du Pasquier, delegate of the ICRC in India, and his assistant, Mr. Jacques Moreillon, went to the Jammu district to visit the Muthi transit camp where there are more than 40,000 refugees, and another camp in which there are almost 2,500 persons, to be present at a distribution of milk and blankets<sup>1</sup>.

The refugees, whose numbers in the Jammu, Samba and Udhampur districts alone are estimated at more than 80,000, have been grouped in 9 camps mostly located between 3000 and 6000 feet. These refugees, who will be facing the rigours of a long winter, will require warm clothing and blankets.

*National Societies' Solidarity.* — From the outset of hostilities between India and Pakistan, emergency supplies of blood plasma and medicaments were sent by the Netherlands and Swiss Red Cross Societies and by the Swiss Government.

Even before the International Committee had launched its appeal, relief supplies were offered by the Swedish, Swiss and Canadian Red Cross Societies, both for India and Pakistan.

After the appeal, cash donations had, by December 15, 1965, been offered by a dozen National Societies, namely: Australia, Denmark, Federal Republic of Germany, Japan, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Norway, South Africa, Switzerland, Syria and the United States. The Swiss Government too contributed in cash, as also did the Order of St. John and the Save the Children Fund through the British Government.

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<sup>1</sup> *Plate*: The delegate of the ICRC distributing blankets to refugees.—Refugees in Pakistan and in India.

National Societies of six countries, namely Australia, Democratic Republic of Germany, France, Switzerland, the United Kingdom and the United States offered donations in kind. For its part the ICRC made available milk and cheese donated by Switzerland.

The value of these donations in cash and in kind, which were divided equally between the Indian and Pakistan Red Cross Societies, was estimated at over 1,400,000 Swiss francs, and distribution in both countries was effected without delay.

## Vietnam

*Distributions in the Central Provinces.* — These relief distributions in the Central Provinces of Vietnam have encountered many difficulties because of the renewal of fighting which makes overland travel practically impossible. This region, which has furthermore been undergoing monsoon conditions with continual rain, has considerably hindered the routing of relief. Some refugee camps situated outside villages in fact find themselves completely cut off from the rest of the world. Air transport itself is difficult in view of bad visibility.

Mr. Alain Modoux, ICRC delegate, has been able, however, with the help of the local Red Cross, to arrange distributions of various relief supplies at Da Nang. From there, he went to Hué where half the relief available has been given to the civilian hospital and the other half to refugees. Distribution at Quang Nam started on December 7, 1965 and 3000 parcels were distributed by the local Red Cross Committee and the delegate of the ICRC.

An appreciable fall in the temperature, due to the monsoon, decided the ICRC delegates to send what remained of their stocks of blankets without delay from Saigon to the refugees in the country. Further consignments are expected to arrive by river.

At these distributions, the ICRC representatives noticed a serious shortage of medical and nursing personnel in the civilian hospitals whose equipping is in addition harassed by transport difficulties. The Swedish Red Cross has sent the International Committee a sum of 50,000 Crowns (about 41,500 Swiss francs) for the purchase of bandaging material and medicines.

*War disabled in South Vietnam.* — In the framework of aid for refugees and war victims in Vietnam, the ICRC has concerned itself with bringing orthopaedic aid to children who have been mutilated and are in great distress. Thus, one small disabled child who had come from Da Nang for treatment in Saigon has had to have a further operation. Mr. Modoux, ICRC delegate, interested himself in this matter. He was informed that the child had lost his entire family as a result of air raids. Dr. Hat, President of the Vietnamese Red Cross, was called upon to sign the moral undertaking requested by the hospital's director to carry out the operation. The delegation of the ICRC will have this young orphan admitted to one of the private orphanages in Saigon, as soon as he can be transported.

*Relief to North Vietnam.* — The Red Cross of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam has acknowledged receipt of a first consignment of medicines for the treatment of burns, sent to it by the ICRC. Several National Red Cross Societies had expressed their intention to take part in this relief action which will be continued North of the 17th parallel, through the intermediary of the ICRC.

*Transmission of Mail.* — The Central Tracing Agency in Geneva is continuing to send to the Red Cross of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam mail despatched to it by the American Red Cross from the families of prisoners of war. The ICRC has asked the authorities of North Vietnam to raise the restrictions imposed on American POWs in Vietnamese hands in sending mail.

*Release of prisoners of war.* — On November 28, the National Liberation Front released 22 South Vietnamese and 2 American prisoners of war to whom the ICRC arranged to have parcels and mail sent in March 1965, through the Cambodian Red Cross.

## Yemen

*Dispatch of relief.* — At the end of September and the beginning of October, the ICRC delegates in Sanaa, in co-operation with the Yemen Ministry of Health, sent four tons of milk and 1,600 kilos of cheese to Qataba in the south of the Yemen.

*Medical Team in Dhamar.* — The local hospital at this village, situated on a high plateau mid-way between Sanaa and Taiz, had



been without a doctor for several months. In view of the urgent need to remedy this situation, an ICRC medical team attached to the delegation at Sanaa has temporarily taken over at that hospital. This team, headed by Dr. Spreng, assisted by Mr. Meyer, a medical student, and Mr. Haederli, a male nurse, treated 123 in-patients and nearly 700 out-patients in November alone.

### **North-West Equatorial Africa**

Mr. Georges Hoffmann, ICRC delegate-general for Sub-Equatorial Africa, has continued his visits to governments and Red Cross Societies in North-West Equatorial Africa, which started at the beginning of this year. On November 21 he left Dakar for Togo, Dahomey, Cameroon and the Central African Republic.

Wherever he went the governments made known their interest in disseminating the Geneva Conventions. The National Red Cross Societies declared their readiness to participate in this task, and the *International Review* will have the opportunity to return to this question.

### **In Berlin and in eastern Europe**

Mr. H. G. Beckh, delegate of the ICRC, recently carried out a mission in various European countries.

After visiting West Berlin he went to East Berlin. The ICRC attempted in particular to make it possible for members of the same family, prevented from seeing each other because of the division of the city in two parts, to meet each other again for the end of year festivities. Mr. Beckh pleaded the cause of humanity on both sides.

He took the opportunity of studying various problems which had been discussed at the International Conference in Vienna with Professor Ludwig, President of the German Red Cross in the German Democratic Republic and with leading members of the German Red Cross in the Federal Republic of Germany.

Before going to Rumania and Bulgaria, he stayed in Prague where he met Mr. Blaha, Director of the Czechoslovak Red Cross and his collaborators with whom he had talks about questions connected with the reuniting of families and with compensation for the victims of pseudo-medical experiments.

In Bucarest he had an exchange of views with the President of the Red Cross of the Rumanian People's Republic, Mr. Moisescu and other leading personalities of the National Society. He noted the interest taken by it in humanitarian problems requiring help from the Red Cross, such as the reuniting of families and the dissemination of the Geneva Conventions.

In Sofia, Mr. Beckh took part with Dr. Kolarov, President of the Bulgarian Red Cross and his colleagues, in a series of work sessions arranged for his visit. He was subsequently received by Mr. A. Voynov, First Deputy Chairman of Justice.

He visited one prison and was able to talk freely and individually with eight persons convicted of political offences. He was given every facility for this visit and the case of a certain number of detainees was given sympathetic study.

Finally, the delegate of the ICRC stopped in Belgrade where he had useful talks with Mrs. Rupena-Osolnik, Secretary-General of the Yugoslav Red Cross and several of her colleagues concerning various questions of common interest. He also participated in a seminar on some new activities which the National Society is proposing for the Junior Red Cross.

He had occasion to revisit a penal establishment which has recently been modernised. He was able to inquire into the position of political detainees he had seen last time and who have subsequently been released.

## **Cambodia**

In September 1965, Mr. André Durand, delegate general of the ICRC for Asia, went to O-Yadao, Cambodia, to visit civilian Vietnamese who had fled from the hostilities<sup>1</sup>. He then continued to Pak Nhay where the sick and pregnant women had been sent.

Mr. Durand observed that these refugees had urgent need of medicines, blankets and clothing. Having been informed of this situation, the ICRC made a donation of 15,000 Swiss francs for their relief.

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<sup>1</sup> *Plate* : The delegate of the ICRC visiting Vietnamese refugees.

*IN GENEVA*

**VICE-PRESIDENCY OF THE ICRC**

Mr. Jacques FREYMOND will remain Vice-President of the International Committee in 1966, whilst Mr. Guillaume BORDIER has been appointed Vice-President for 1966 and 1967.

**PRESIDENTIAL COUNCIL**

The International Committee of the Red Cross has constituted its Presidential Council for 1966 as follows : President : Mr. Samuel A. GONARD ; Vice-Presidents : Mr. Jacques FREYMOND and Mr. Guillaume BORDIER ; Members : Mr. Hans BACHMANN, Mr. Martin BODMER, Mr. Léopold BOISSIER and Mr. Frédéric SIORDET.

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**New Year Message**

*Like his predecessors in previous years, the President of the International Committee, Mr. S. A. Gonard, recorded the following message, which was sent to many countries :*

The year now ending has not brought that improvement in the world situation which all so ardently desire. Whilst some conflicts calmed down, others broke out or became more intense and old hatreds were rekindled. Suffering and distress is still the lot of countless unfortunate human beings, both combatants and non-combatants.

The Red Cross could not relax its efforts for a single moment. For its part, the International Committee of the Red Cross fulfilled its humanitarian mission in Cyprus, in the Congo, in the Yemen, in the Dominican Republic, in Viet Nam, in India, Pakistan and elsewhere in arduous and often dangerous conditions which are imposed upon it in today's conflicts.

However, in spite of obstacles, refusals and the difficulty of getting accepted everywhere the standards of humanity as laid down by the Geneva Conventions, it is comforting to see that the hopes placed in the Red Cross are constantly increasing. More and more people depend and count upon it, especially when it is a question of preserving peace.

The placing of so much confidence implies continuous and ever-widening responsibilities. All who took part in the XXth International Conference of the Red Cross meeting in Vienna last October, were fully aware of this. Coming from every corner of a world tragically torn apart they knew how to silence that which could divide them, in a common desire to serve the Red Cross.

This active fellowship in the face of human suffering expresses the very spirit of our work. May the coming year bring new and striking examples of this.

### **A token of gratitude**

On December 23, 1965, took place the now traditional ceremony in the course of which the International Committee of the Red Cross marks its gratitude to members of the staff with twenty years of service to their credit.

The President of the ICRC, Mr. Gonard, in the presence of several of his colleagues, expressed the institution's thanks. He congratulated all of these staff members for their attachment to the work of the Red Cross and presented them each with a silver tray. The persons concerned were : Miss A. Guyard, Messrs Ch. Ammann, A. Baechler, M. Bays, H. G. Beckh, J. Eggimann, G. Piller, J. Ruff, J. R. Siegrist.

On behalf of his colleagues, Mr. Siegrist thanked the International Committee for its gesture and confidence. He also added

good wishes for the success in Geneva and the rest of the world of the tasks undertaken “ by an institution to which ”, he said, “ we are proud to belong ”.

## **Distinction**

The Australian Red Cross has awarded Mr. Léopold Boissier, President of the International Committee of the Red Cross from 1955 until 1964, its Medal of Honour, with citation, the highest distinction granted by this Society, for his work at the head of the Committee at a time when this institution was faced with particularly difficult decisions.

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## AT THE INTERNATIONAL TRACING SERVICE

In 1965 the ITS celebrated its twentieth anniversary. This coincided with another anniversary in the Red Cross : ten years of ICRC presence in Arolsen<sup>1</sup>.

As the *International Review*<sup>2</sup> mentioned some time ago, the management of this important Service was entrusted to the International Committee. Already at that time the ITS was discharging many and varied tasks on the basis of copious documents and records, patiently collected and classified since the end of the Second World War. The numerous enquiries received in Arolsen from 1951 to 1965 show an almost constant numerical progression and illustrate the importance of the services required of the International Tracing Service by people all over the world. By the end of 1964 total enquiries had reached the figure of 1,754,000, the yearly figures being :

1951	52,000	1958	155,000
1952	53,000	1959	126,000
1953	67,000	1960	115,000
1954	103,000	1961	129,000
1955	138,000	1962	155,000
1956	158,000	1963	101,000
1957	204,000	1964	198,000

In addition, we give below some further figures taken from the ITS Report for the first six months of 1965. These show how worthwhile is the work still being carried out at ITS Headquarters :

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<sup>1</sup> Plate : The ITS building and a part of the card-index.

<sup>2</sup> See *International Review*, August 1965.

INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE

*Enquiries and applications for certificates*

1. Individual enquiries	7,226
2. Requests for photocopies	7,351
3. Applications for death certificates	3,653
4. Requests for certificates to apply for compensation etc.	49,309
5. Requests for information on historical and statistical data	214
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Total	67,753

We would add that on June 30, 1965, the ITS staff numbered 234.

## IN THE RED CROSS WORLD

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### Santo Domingo

*The following report, submitted at the ICRC's request, was recently received in Geneva. Not the least reason for our being pleased to publish it is that it bears testimony to the fine work carried out by the Dominican Red Cross in particularly difficult circumstances. It was written after the events which occurred in Santo Domingo, by Señor LUIS F. FERNANDEZ MARTINEZ, who was President of the Dominican Red Cross at that time.*

*Our readers will recall the intervention of the ICRC and the work of its delegates ; these were described several times in the International Review* <sup>1</sup>.

This report is being drawn up to place on record, in the history of the Dominican Red Cross, the humanitarian work carried out by the National Red Cross Society and the ICRC. First we wish to emphasize the dedication displayed by the Institution's members and also by the volunteers, who, in true Red Cross spirit, gave a fine example of exceptional devotion to duty.

On April 24, 1965, we learnt that a coup d'état had just taken place in the Dominican Republic. On the following day armed conflict broke out between the "Constitutionalist" Forces and those of the military junta which, later on, took the name "Government of National Reconstruction". During the first day the fighting was limited to the outskirts of the town and to the approaches to the Duarte Bridge.

From the evening of the 25th, however, the fighting became more wide-spread. The number of wounded and dead throughout the

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<sup>1</sup> See, in particular, *International Review*, August 1965.



town was so great that the Dominican Red Cross personnel, who had gone into action the previous day, found its activities becoming more and more intense. Ten of the city's ambulances and four others from various parts of the country were used for the transport of the many wounded and dead to the hospitals and also for supplying the hospitals with urgently required material.

The work of the Red Cross and particularly of the ambulances was continually interrupted by the fire of weapons of every calibre, including mortars, tanks, guns, bazookas, rifles and machine-guns as well as by air raids. This fighting continued until April 30 at 11.30 a.m., when the President of the Dominican Red Cross, in collaboration with the Papal Ambassador and after having succeeded in making telephone contact with the armed forces in both sectors, arranged a truce, to enable collection of the hundreds of wounded and dead with which the streets were strewn. On the following day, in view of the danger of an epidemic and the impossibility of properly burying the corpses, the Red Cross was obliged, with the agreement of the Church, to consign the bodies to a common grave. The dead numbered about 350 and some of them had to be cremated.

A few days later, in co-operation with the Department of Health and Social Welfare, and with the help of personnel from the World Health Organization, a large-scale vaccination campaign against typhoid and para-typhoid was undertaken.

The work of the Red Cross was hindered by the lack of electricity and telephone communication and also by the shortage of water. In addition, misuse of the Red Cross sign was frequent. Many private cars belonging to doctors which, because of their white colour, could be mistaken for ambulances, were used to transport war material and combatants and the latter several times opened fire from the inside of these cars. As a result, several Red Cross ambulances were later fired on and the personnel wounded.

When the truce which the Red Cross had arranged came to an end, there were daily wounded and killed. The cease fire which had been of short duration did however contribute to a reduction in the number of deaths.

During the first few days of May, fighting was less intense and valuable assistance in the form of medical supplies was received from the American Red Cross.

## IN THE RED CROSS WORLD

On May 14, the struggle broke out with renewed violence in the north-west of the capital which was held by the Constitutionalist Forces. These operations continued for six days, in the course of which the Red Cross was more active than ever. Its main task was the transport of wounded and dead and the provisioning of hospitals in various districts of the town.

On May 14, Mr. Pierre Jequier, delegate of the International Committee of the Red Cross, arrived in Santo Domingo. His presence had been requested by the Dominican Red Cross so that, through co-operation with the National Society, effective aid could be given to the prisoners of war and political detainees in the Santo Domingo prisons.

National Society officials, together with Mr. Jequier, visited La Victoria Penitentiary, the prisons of the Palacio Nacional, the Salomé Ureña Institute, and La Audiencia ; the latter two were on territory controlled by the Constitutionalist Forces. By these visits the Red Cross was able to make known its interest in the treatment of prisoners and their state of health, and it was able also to deliver medical and food supplies intended for these prisoners. Following these visits, the ICRC delegate drew up a report which was handed to both Governments in order that improvements be made in conditions of detention.

On May 19, the battle was resumed when the Constitutionalist Forces attempted to retake the Palacio Nacional. There were dead and wounded, and activity by the Red Cross and the blood bank was intense. Mention must be made of the fact that until that time the help received from other Latin American republics and from the United States as well as several European countries had been considerable : pharmaceuticals, blood, linen and food-stuffs.

In view of the many wounded and dead to be transported even whilst fighting was going on, and the risks which ambulance drivers and volunteers had to run, the Dominican Red Cross, in co-operation with the ICRC and World Health Organization delegates, as well as with the Special Representative of the United Nations Secretary-General, drafted a cease fire proposal which was submitted to the National Reconstruction and Constitutionalist Governments. After several changes, two such documents were finally signed on May 20 by the President, Colonel Francisco Caamano for the Constitutionalist

Forces, and by General Antonio Imbert, President of the Government of National Reconstruction. This cease fire undoubtedly saved many human lives.

During this period, the Dominican Red Cross had many other tasks to attend to, not the least of which was the recruiting of blood donors. The staff of the blood bank played a large part in this campaign, in which a number of voluntary personnel were associated.

To enable proper treatment to be given to the wounded, blood had to be delivered to the hospitals, an almost impossible task at times, in the midst of the fighting. Special mention should be made of the co-operation received from our blood bank and the town of San Francisco Macoris through which we continually received blood supplies collected in that province. In addition, several other towns sent us blood they had collected.

A second ICRC delegate arrived on May 28, Mr. Serge Nessi, who, with Mr. Jequier, co-operated with the Dominican Red Cross indefatigably in every aspect of its activity. After a period of relative calm, fighting broke out again on June 15 and once more the Red Cross was in action with might and main. Finally, we would mention that most of the help received by the Dominican Red Cross and our people came from the U.S.A., Mexico, Colombia, Panama, Argentina, Aruba Island, Puerto Rico, Brazil, Guatemala, Peru, Chile, Curaçao, Spain, France and Switzerland. In addition, many sister Societies generously co-operated with a grateful Dominican Red Cross.

On July 4, Mr. Jequier left for Geneva and Mr. Nessi on the 10th. Although they considered their presence no longer indispensable, both assured the President of the Dominican Red Cross that they would return in case of need.

In conclusion, we would add a few general comments prompted by the Dominican Red Cross's experience during this tragic episode in our country's history.

1. Voluntary workers are extremely important, and it is essential that they be trained in peace-time.
2. Abuse of the red cross emblem led to difficulty in the performance of our work, and was undoubtedly the cause of tragic incidents which would otherwise not have occurred.

## IN THE RED CROSS WORLD

3. The voluntary staff should include people of all ages, particular importance being attached to the Junior Red Cross.
  4. Undoubtedly the constant neutrality of the Red Cross enabled it to carry out its task in accordance with Henry Dunant's wishes.
  5. National Societies should strengthen the ties between them through regional, inter-American and world conferences.
  6. Red Cross activities must always be free of the trammels of political considerations, not only in war-time but also in time of peace.
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## Youth's Viewpoint...

"Red Cross Youth ; tomorrow's strength today " : this was the theme of an essay competition organized by the Canadian Junior Red Cross on the occasion of World Red Cross Day for 1965 which, as is well known, was dedicated to youth. This competition was open to all Canadian Juniors ; the winner of the first prize for French-speaking competitors was *Miss Pauline Lajoie*, of Edmundston, whilst the winning English language competitor was *Miss Sherry Hilton* of Calgary, Alberta. Thus these two young girls who are both only 16 years of age, were able to spend part of their summer holidays in Europe ; this was the prize offered to the winning competitors.

As can be seen from the extracts which we believe will be of interest to our readers, these winning entries which have been kindly communicated to us by the Junior Red Cross Bureau of the League, display the competitors' earnest desire to serve their neighbours in a spirit of solidarity and humanity. And this is the true spirit of the Junior Red Cross, a spirit which, as Mr. Verniers wrote in his foreword to the book on the World Conference of Educators at Lausanne, " is to make young people aware of the "

existence of others, make them ready and qualified to serve their neighbour by their acts ”.

Miss Lajoie wrote :

*Let us consider the reality of youth with its warm heart and burning desire to offer its services to an exciting mankind.*

*... it will depend entirely on our strength of soul and desire to make tomorrow a world where peace reigns and it is a pleasure to live. However, if this is our desire, there must be a means of making it come true. We have a magnificent opportunity to put our vital strength to good use in serving the Red Cross which is a guarantee for the future, as through this movement we can improve both today and tomorrow.*

*“ We must be aware of present-day world reality.” This statement is one which is profound and one which is meant for all youth. It means that no opportunity, however small, should be neglected. We must at any price avoid inactivity ; we must accomplish something for the furtherance of our Red Cross movement. It is often an easy matter to begin a task, to draw up a project ; but does not the real difficulty lie in successful accomplishment ? I do not share the opinion of those who say : “ The first step is what counts, the remainder will follow on automatically.” No. The first step has already been taken, and we must carry on and prove that in the Red Cross movement the work to be tackled is vast and that on our whole-hearted efforts depends its accomplishment ...*

*... I think that we young people of Canada especially have a good opportunity to give proof of our skill and strength by helping in a friendly way our brothers in developing countries. The Red Cross offers us this opportunity ... Service to one's neighbour has done, does, and will continue to do so much good in the world. That is why action is urgently needed now ...*

*... There is no denying the fact that when little is demanded of young people they finish by giving nothing ... We must realize that youth is not given us for pleasure but for dedication. Youth proves this by taking part in the Red Cross ...*

*... Young people ... need work not only to earn their living but above all to develop and find fulfilment. Looked at in this light our Society meets the requirements of youth by offering it a task within the Red Cross where so much good can be done ...*

## IN THE RED CROSS WORLD

Miss Hilton wrote :

*... The present generation has taken halting steps in the direction of better international understanding, but what remains for the next generation—the youth of today—are the bold strides that will make it a reality in the hearts of man that we are all brothers and dependent upon each other.*

*Part of the answer is to educate the youth of today to the concept that all men are brothers. ... Perhaps the most important way of achieving the education of our youth is through the medium of Junior Red Cross ...*

*... Through direct contact, Junior Red Cross communication with other nations by exchange of information on the physical, personal and cultural level, an appreciation and understanding of each other's problems is achieved. If this can be done at the public and high school level, and it is being done, is it not reasonable to assume that these feelings of brotherhood and understanding will carry over into adult life ?*

*It is my firm belief that it is not so much the difference in our ideologies that is the barrier to world peace, but rather the lack of personal knowledge of each other's problems and the reluctance of those of us among the more affluent nations to assist the others in their struggle for a higher standard of living.*

*If universal peace is ever to be achieved it will be because all nations have accepted the concept of international brotherhood. There are many avenues that peaceful nations must explore to achieve this end. I submit that one avenue, and a very important one, is the fostering of the Junior Red Cross movement throughout the world.*

*Training the youth of today in international understanding and involving them in projects designed toward that end, provides a pool of informed and interested volunteers who will be willing and ready to take their place in the Senior Red Cross Society.*

*By building bridges of international friendship through Junior Red Cross training, the youth of today can be the hope of the world of tomorrow.*

## A PUBLICATION ON RED CROSS STAMPS

The Centenary Commission of the Red Cross in Switzerland formed, as is known, by the three Red Cross institutions established in Switzerland, the ICRC, the League and the Swiss Red Cross has just published a General Catalogue on Red Cross Stamps, a fine work, lavishly illustrated, of 296 pages<sup>1</sup>.

This is due to Mr. Max-Marc Thomas who has for many years been collecting Red Cross stamps of which he has made systematic documentation. Being in touch with the principal collectors of Red Cross stamps throughout the world, he has asked their advice in doubtful cases.

Presented in a handsome cover and printed on glossy paper, this catalogue contains nearly a thousand reproductions of stamps listed.

These are divided into three categories :

- a) Usual postage stamps commemorating the Red Cross in words, by illustration or on the edges of sheets, issued in agreement with the National Red Cross or Red Crescent Society.
- b) Usual postage stamps without Red Cross indications, but sold for the benefit of the Red Cross or for its use.
- c) Stamps with topical or historical Red Cross subjects and activities, but not recognized by the Red Cross.

Mr. Thomas has had the excellent idea of indicating for each country the date of foundation of the National Red Cross (Red Crescent and Red Lion and Sun) Society and also the date of those countries' accession to the Geneva Conventions of 1949.

The work is completed by a list of International Conferences of the Red Cross and Diplomatic Conferences which drew up the

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<sup>1</sup> *Catalogue général des timbres Croix-Rouge*. Can be obtained from the League of Red Cross Societies (Chemin des Crêts 17, Petit-Saconnex, Geneva) for 20 Swiss francs.

## IN THE RED CROSS WORLD

Geneva Conventions, a list of the ICRC's Presidents and of the League's Chairmen and Secretaries-General and a list of sessions of the Board of Governors and Regional Inter-American Conferences. It also contains a brief outline of the organisation of the International Red Cross.

Written in French, the catalogue has an explanatory introduction in English, Spanish and German, thus facilitating its use.

Several catalogues have already been produced of which mention has been made in the *International Review*. This is, however, the first time that such a complete catalogue has appeared. It will certainly render much service to collectors and will encourage amateurs to collect Red Cross stamps.

C. P.



# M I S C E L L A N E O U S

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## HEALTH EDUCATION

### Precept and Teaching

*The importance attached to health education today is well known. In every country it is linked to civil defence and the problems involved are investigated by Government institutions set up for the protection of public health. It is a subject which also interests National Societies, as was observed during the XXth International Conference of the Red Cross.*

*Health education, moreover, constitutes the first phase of a five year plan in the League's Development Programme. It is already an important part of Junior Red Cross activities in many National Societies.*

*For that reason we consider the following study worthy of reproduction. It is taken from the French Red Cross Review Vie et Bonté (Paris, April 1959). Its author, Dr. Pierre Delore, who died six years ago, was a professor at the Lyons Faculty of Medicine. We are publishing his study with a sense of gratitude for a man whose humanitarian values were unflinching.*

### I. Definition

Health education may be defined as the whole body of concepts and processes by which man learns how to keep fit. Man's health therefore is the aim of health education.

What is health ? The academic definition given in the dictionary, "absence of illness", is narrow and negative. Health implies positive values : harmony of functions, development which is orderly and balanced : balanced with environment, a balance of impulses and reactions.

Health is a capacity to adapt, compensate and resist. The man in good health is capable of exerting effort, of withstanding certain trials or physical and psychical stress.

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That is not all. Our concept of health extends not only to the body but to the mind. The reciprocity of physical and moral influences is undeniable. No man is truly physically sound without being also mentally healthy. Hygiene of the body is inseparable from that of the mind, and mental health, like physical, is a matter of balance and a whole set of attributes. Moral health may be looked upon as a capacity to resist and even to overcome evil.

Health thus defined is first and foremost a matter of hygiene, for if we admit that health is dependent on two primary factors : heredity and healthy living conditions, we must also admit that hygiene is the basis of these factors : hygiene of parents and of the person concerned.

It is a widely accepted misconception that illness is a matter of chance and fate. It is most often the result of ignorance or negligence of the rules of healthy living. Predisposition to illness resides especially in neglect of hygiene such as : insalubrious housing, improper food, alcoholism, overwork, excesses of all kinds, work in unhealthy conditions, bad mental hygiene and immorality.

## II. Reasons for health education

Now hygiene itself is a matter of education. Indeed the implementation of the rules of healthy living requires knowledge and will and therein lies the justification for health education. Health cannot be abandoned to inexperience any more than to bad habits, whim or passion. It requires daily attention and discipline, both personal and collective. Healthy living postulates wise living. Some of the factors on which health depends are educational by their nature : cleanliness and orderliness, purity and moral simplicity, sober habits and, last but not least, will-power. Conversely, at the origin of health troubles (illness or accident) there is, more often than is thought, a human element of an intellectual or moral order : ignorance, improvidence, imprudence, negligence, immorality, intemperance or lack of will-power. There are illnesses which are due to deficiency of knowledge and of will.

One of the most educational aspects of our task therefore consists of showing the part played by the human element in illness,

in the causation of sickness or accident, rather than those factors too readily blamed which we call misfortune or fate.

Let us not confuse training and education. The teaching of hygiene must be completed by education in the widest sense of the word. Similarly, all sanitary legislation should be accompanied by appropriate education. Teaching and enforcement : these two means of action evoke a third : education. This implies the integration into every-day life of the precept of hygiene. This cannot be restricted to the distribution of notices, rules of hygiene, forms, technical indications, nor even a catalogue of do's and don't's. The simple curt injunction " do not spit " is not health education ; it is a police order. Education explains and motivates ; it prepares opinion for decrees and laws.

Certainly it is true that in matters affecting public hygiene, authority must often be imposed ; and yet tomorrow's citizen will have greater respect for sanitary regulations because he will have understood the reasons for them early in life.

By contrast, individual hygiene is not in practice subject to authority and regulations ; this applies in particular to cleanliness and temperance. It is therefore necessary by appealing to reason to bring home to one and all the underlying why and wherefore of hygiene. Without this, administrative regulations and medical prescriptions are inadequate.

There are yet other reasons for health education. We give special recognition to three of these :

### *1. Factual or psychological reasons*

Can it be denied that apprenticeship to healthy living has still to be undertaken almost entirely from the beginning ? Ignorance in matters of health is still wide-spread. It is found among all social strata. The practices of town and country doctors, drawn from the masses of the population, as well as experience in hospitals, speak volumes. They typify the ignorance and negligence of personal hygiene in most sections of the public. This is not a reference to even the elementary notions of anatomy and physiology : the human organism is a factor which is unknown or misunderstood by most people ; yet so many today are familiar with the internal combustion engine.

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Even worse than ignorance are false ideas and prejudice. How numerous these are in questions of feeding, consumption of alcohol, and sun bathing ! How many wrong opinions there are also on the ways in which we fall ill, and the real beginning of illnesses !

Health education has not yet been given the place which is its due. Youths reach maturity insufficiently prepared for the various problems of life, particularly those which affect their own health and that of their future children.

### 2. *Timeliness*

This reason is particularly valid today. Can the ever-growing lack of good sense and moderation prevalent nowadays be denied ? Whilst death is postponed by progress in certain aspects of hygiene and preventive medicine, particularly as they affect communicable diseases, today's way of life aggravates all kinds of imbalance which weigh, if not on life, at least on the health and well-being of us all.

Man's health is thus constantly threatened by conditions of modern life which often run counter to nature or are artificial, as well as by the excesses and vices made more accessible by so-called progress.

### 3. *Economic reasons*

Nothing is more costly than illness. Financial outlay on hygiene is productive ; hygiene pays and pays well. Money and time devoted to health education are a deferred but certain economy, avoiding expenses which would be made necessary later by sick people, disabled and perhaps criminals. Health education is a sound investment both for the community and for the individual.

## III. Health education principles

### 1. *Realism*

Health education is eminently realistic and practical. It draws its essence from life and humanity. It finds guidance in the laws of healthy living, in the needs of man and the risks to which he is exposed. It cannot be confined to book-learning. It is not the preaching of morals. It is not subservient to ideology or to dogma such as racial distinction.

To see things as they are, to speak the truth even though it may displease or conflict with self-interest or prejudice, to discard the shackles of routine, convention, false modesty and demagoguery, whenever required by the public good ; these are some of the properties of healthy education.

## *2. Health and normality first*

We have expounded elsewhere the theme that medicine and hygiene were first developed in the framework of pathology and abnormality. This was due to the fact that the teaching of health-orientated biology did not have the place in the forefront it deserved in the curricula of medical faculties. Even text books on hygiene dealt with microbes and toxins before considering health which, if dealt with at all, was relegated to a few pages at the back.

Consider the normal man. Show how health can be safeguarded before telling how illness can be cured.

The teacher of health education must retain his optimism. He should inculcate confidence in the value of resistance conferred by hygiene, rather than fear of the inevitability of sickness and a terror of microbes.

In general, health education concentrates more on health than on illness ; it confers a mental propensity to health more than an outlook centred on illness. For a fear of microbes, draughts or cold, it should substitute confidence in a healthy body, a resistant constitution.

We cannot over-emphasize the importance of this attitude and of framing health programmes related to sound health and physiology, for it is in this way that such programmes will be the most educative.

## *3. Environment and public health needs*

Our health educational programme will be based on a study of environment and the needs it engenders. Consequently accurate data is required, particularly vital statistics. It is obvious that in a region where tuberculosis is a serious problem, our work will be orientated as a consequence. The same applies if such problems as typhoid, syphilis or alcoholism, etc., are prevalent.

This implies of course that health education must closely, intel-

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ligently and opportunely give support to such general and local health schemes as may be devised by the public health authorities in the light of local conditions.

Our educational programme should be constantly flexible so that, if necessary, it can be adapted to sanitary conditions. In this way any unforeseen disaster such as an epidemic can be parried by an immediate and appropriate educative campaign.

### *4. Accessibility to all*

Health education is a matter of concern to the public at large, in other words it must be put over in a simple and direct manner in such a way that it strikes the imagination and retains attention, leaving aside technical terms which are the province of the doctor and any debatable points.

### *5. Adaptation of means to conditions of psychological and instructional level*

This implies for instance that some subjects may not be presented to children, teachers, workers and agricultural labourers in the same way. Social conditions, circumstances and even the season must be taken into consideration : for example it would be bad timing to organize educational films in the country-side during the harvest or grape gathering : the bad weather season would be more appropriate. If it is desired to arrange for a lecture with film projection in a factory, at least part of the last working hour of the day should be chosen to do so, if workers are asked to stay an hour late at the end of the day, you may be sure that most of them will not do so.

### *6. Tact*

There are some things which should not be said, or rather should be said only at the proper time and in the proper place. Sex education for instance is not sex initiation ! Talks on venereal diseases require tact : there is the story of an elderly country doctor who, when called upon to lecture on this subject to young country girls, described the dangers of venereal diseases in such a manner that most of his listeners were so upset that they ran home to their mothers for reassurance. Abortion is also a subject to be broached

with prudence : the risks must be explained but not the process. Recently in the north of France, a newspaper report on a medical comment on 17 cases of corrosive oesophagitis was followed by the admission to the Lille hospital of two persons having attempted suicide by swallowing caustic products.

These few examples show with tact and common sense health education must be conducted in order to achieve its aim.

### *7. First educate the educators*

It has always been our considered opinion that in health education the teacher should be the doctor's main assistant. If it is up to us in the first place to prepare the young to lead a healthy life, then it is to the schools that we must first address ourselves. It can never be too frequently stated how necessary and fertile is such a partnership of doctor and teacher in this task of ours. After having been briefed, teachers will in turn transmit to their pupils in appropriate language the ideas which they have been given. It need hardly be emphasized that health education in school is no mere book-learning, it should be as practical and realistic as possible, as already mentioned.

The mother being the child's first educator in hygiene, it is important to make special efforts in women's circles. Instruction in child welfare and domestic science is of primary importance in this connection.

### *8. Integral character*

Health education is intended particularly to reach youth. Considered from this point of view it should not be isolated from education as a whole. It is inseparable from intellectual, moral and character training. It is correlated to natural science, physical training, leisure and morals. It addresses itself to man in all his aspects as a psycho-physiological being. For health education, man is an individual living not in isolation but in close association with various physical and social environments.

### *9. Co-ordination*

Health education demands close co-ordination of sanitary, educational and social activities at all levels. In particular it implies

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confident co-operation between health education centres and regional Public Health Departments, between health education centres and the State education system, as well as harmonious relations with the social security services.

### 10. Humanitarianism

Tangible humanitarianism lies at the basis of health education, which endeavours to prepare man for healthy living, to produce and maintain human beings in good health and balance.

It thereby gives factual expression to the concept of health security and social justice. Social justice, from the angle of health education, involves measurable positive values, e.g. so many cubic feet of fresh air ; so many gallons of fresh water in every home, no matter how humble ; the pursuit of healthy leisure activities ; a diet of so many calories for all, irrespective of class.

Health education postulates rights and duties, it should complete the 1789 Declaration of the Rights of Man.

Health education is for all, not only for a privileged class. I stated this in the first issue of the *Declaration des droits sanitaires de l'homme* in 1937<sup>1</sup>:

“ The preservation of health and the prevention of disease being first and foremost matters of knowledge and education, every citizen is entitled to protection against ignorance, to instruction in the laws and needs of health, and to elementary health education.

Teenagers have a special right to health education.

Young men are entitled to sex, health and moral education. Future parents have a right to biological and moral education for sound and planned procreation.

Young women, the mothers of the future, are entitled to instruction in child welfare and domestic science.

The least educated and the poorest of citizens have a particular right to expect from the State wide and active teaching courses on these subjects.”

In addition, it is evident that health education must have regard for human dignity and freedom. Education is better than enforcement. Our aim is to win the public over to the cause of health.

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<sup>1</sup> P. Delore and F. Perroux, *Projet pour une déclaration des droits et des devoirs sanitaires de l'homme*. Paris, Musée social, 1937.



Education is concerned with man in all his aspects. Without integrating health as a subject in school curricula, full education cannot be achieved ; nor that humanitarianism expressed already before 1789 by Lakanal and others but which has remained a dead letter.

The scope of health education is worldwide, for it is required to broach all problems affecting human life from the cradle to the grave. What is more, eugenics is a branch of health education concerned with man even before birth, through his progenitors.

#### **IV. Health education value and field of application**

##### *Results*

Health education does not show immediate or spectacular results. The road it has to travel is long and strewn with obstacles such as ignorance, scepticism, indifference, routine, prejudice, wrong ideas and self-interest. Health education is a long-term undertaking ; it is slow to show results, but sure. The health educator works for posterity.

Ideas sown in fertile soil sooner or later bear fruit, and the masses, who are so frequently offered unsound ideas, are not impervious to wholesome ideas when they are understandable and represent progress and disinterested service to humanity.

The financial gains are no less sure. As stated earlier, expenditure on hygiene is productive ; it is a sound investment.

##### *Healthy and peaceful outlook*

Any nation with thought for its own future—in other words for its youth—will have to give more and more attention to health education, as to all aspects of hygiene and physical well-being.

Health education development is linked to general policy in public health, of which it is a sector.

But it has not only a national, but also an international, aspect. Not being a matter of controversial politics, it can be a contributory factor in bringing people together. In every country there is an enormous task facing educators.

In addition, health education is part and parcel of education for peace, in that it is orientated to harmony, order, reason, justice,

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balance and happiness. The interrelation between a healthy disposition and a peaceful one is not fully appreciated. There are analogies to be drawn between health and peace, just as there are between sickness and war. Health education of the masses can contribute to their peaceful disposition.

### *Civilizing Influence*

But health education has an even greater range of possibilities in that development of civilization we call "progress" and in modern living conditions. Do these conditions, it might well be asked, satisfy the rules of healthy living? Do they not present a serious danger to human health: fatigue, imbalance, absorption of poisons of all kinds? For we have no illusions about the present and it is our duty to ask ourselves these questions affecting the health of generations to come. Now the reply is ineluctable: the pace of modern life is contrary to nature. So-called civilization loses sight of more and more of nature's laws of health, which first and foremost postulate balance and moderation. Man cannot with impunity transgress the laws of biology. This he must learn and never be allowed to forget.

Herein lie the value, influence and scope of the health educators in modern life. They must therefore not consider themselves mere agents of dissemination and purveyors of propaganda. Let them be aware of their social mission. Let their work and themselves be raised to a high ethical level.

Then, if all health educators in all countries unite their views and efforts, they will be capable of guiding to some extent the progress of civilization.

Health education is an art and a science, and is in continuous evolution.

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## **AN INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL OF ADVANCED NURSING EDUCATION**

This school was recently officially opened in Lyons, France. Established on the instigation of the World Health Organization, the International School was built thanks to the good offices of the «Hospices civils de Lyon», and with the assistance and financial support of the French Ministry of Health. It is placed under the academic control of Lyons University as far as teaching and examinations are concerned.

In his address the Regional Director of W.H.O. stated : " The need for this International School of Advanced Nursing Education had been felt for some time already. The solution adopted until now of sending a large number of the future leaders of the nursing profession across the Atlantic for training was a costly and not very practical one. It could only have been considered as a stop-gap solution."

The School's aim is to train senior nurses for higher posts be they in the field of the organization and planning of nursing education, or in the organization and planning of hospital or public health nursing services.

This establishment is the first French-language International School of Advanced Nursing Education. Another school of similar inspiration was opened in Edinburgh, in October 1964, for the benefit of English-speaking students. These two schools are, however, not the first to receive international students since, for a number of years already, Universities in Belgium, the United Kingdom, the United States of America, and Canada have enabled foreign nurses to follow their advanced education courses.

The major characteristic of the International School of Advanced Nursing Education lies in the fact that it is an experimental school designed to orientate and promote a rapid evolution of the nursing profession, taking into account the demographic, economic, social and cultural needs of the modern world. One aspect of the School's experimental nature is noticeable in its orientation towards research aimed at inducing nurses to take an active part in the elabora-

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tion of health and social planning, and in the production of professional literature.

The variety of previous experiences and future tasks is such that programmes have to be adapted to the respective needs of students. The latter, assisted by the teaching staff, make up their own programmes on the basis of the responsibilities with which they will be entrusted in the future.

The establishment of such a School is bound to arouse interest even outside the framework of the nursing profession. The wide social and health aims set will become fully apparent only when a well-informed and interested public opinion can express its needs and play an active role in the evolution of a profession entirely devoted to its welfare.

It should be mentioned that Miss M. Duvillard, a member of the ICRC, took an active part in the founding of the school and that she closely follows its development, since she is a member of the three governing bodies and will be called upon not only to contribute at seminars in Lyons but also to organize in Switzerland some of the teach-in programmes which the students will attend outside France. Miss Duvillard has kindly given us a brief comment on the undoubted importance of this school for the Red Cross.

The school is intended to be international in several aspects ; its students, its teaching staff, its teaching courses and the composition of its governing boards. Graduates will be trained in nursing school management, advanced teaching, advising the Ministries of Health and Education in nursing and nursing instruction. In some countries these nurses may be called upon to direct army nursing services or nursing schools controlled by the Ministry of Defence.

To equip them to assume these functions, which in any case require close contact with National Red Cross Societies, students at this International School of Advanced Nursing Education must have thorough instruction in the fundamental principles of the Red Cross, the structure and functioning of Red Cross institutions, as well as on the Geneva Conventions, their application and dissemination.

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## BOOKS AND REVIEWS

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### INSTITUTIONS FOR THE PROTECTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS <sup>1</sup>

More and more attention is being given to the problems of human rights to which the *International Review* referred several times last year. The World Veterans Federation has now produced a brochure of some 124 pages entitled *Institutions for the protection of human rights* which gives a report of special sessions held on the subject by the WVF in Paris in 1964.

The central theme of the report is described as follows in the introduction: "... the protection of human rights and freedoms must be treated as a basic responsibility of society and measures to that end must be incorporated in the central structure of each social and political system". Then follows a description of the institutions created to that end on the national, regional and international level.

Seven writers in turn analyse subjects related to human rights and their protection in the world today.

The international institutions are dealt with by Professor René Cassin, one of the promoters and authors of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and by Mr. Nicolas Valticos, Head of the International Standards Division, International Labour Office. Mr. A. H. Robertson, Head of Directorate of Human Rights, Council of Europe and Mr. Sean MacBride, Secretary-General of the International Commission of Jurists, describe some of the national requirements. Observations concerning their countries were made by the Nawab Ali Yavar Jung Bahadur, Ambassador of India to France, Mr. Gabriel d'Arboussier, former Ambassador of Senegal to France and Mr. Hubert L. Will, Judge of the United States District Court. The session was opened with an address by Sir Muhammad Zafrulla Khan, Judge of the International Court of Justice, referring to the growing need of an International sense of morality: "... This is the Age of Man. Man is beginning to be

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<sup>1</sup> Obtainable in French and English from the Fédération Mondiale des anciens combattants, 16, rue Hamelin, Paris (16<sup>e</sup>).

## BOOKS AND REVIEWS

conscious of his own position in the universe and demands that his personality and dignity shall be accorded due recognition and respect. He is beginning to take note of that which his fellow beings, society and the State owe to him and of that which, in turn, he owes to them. The process needs to be stimulated and accelerated. This consciousness needs to be aroused where it may be still lacking and to be sharpened where it has been awakened. In this context emphasis must be laid on man's obligations and duties towards his fellow beings as the principal means of securing his own rights, freedoms and privileges, for they are the obverse and reverse of the same coin."...

This work is of great interest and its publication is in the WVF's tradition since that body, at all general meetings to which the ICRC has been convened has, ever since its foundation, devoted itself to defending the principles laid down in the Universal Declaration. Furthermore, Mr. René Cassin emphasises in that brochure the importance of the Red Cross and its action in protecting human rights on the international level. In concluding this brief analysis, we quote the following passage in which he affirms that idea.

"It is my present task to speak to you of the international protection of human rights. You will not be surprised to hear that this is a comparatively new thing. It is true that philosophers, reformers and religious teachers have in the past dreamed of the solidarity and equality of all mankind. But they were few. The concept of solidarity and equality of all mankind was for a long time impeded by the isolation of the various civilizations and the distances separating peoples from one another and the non-existence of mass communication media. After all, it was not until the end of the 18th Century that the human race began to revolt against slavery, and it was this struggle against slavery which marked the beginning of the international protection of human rights. And in spite of the fact that the struggle has lasted so long and in spite of the means employed against it, there is still slavery in the world, as you know. The second great step was the Red Cross and 1863 may be considered as an important date in the history of international protection." ...

*J.-G. L.*

# EXTRACT FROM THE STATUTES OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS

(AGREED AND AMENDED ON SEPTEMBER 25, 1952)

ART. 1. — The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), founded in Geneva in 1863 and formally recognized in the Geneva Conventions and by International Conferences of the Red Cross, shall be an independent organization having its own Statutes.

It shall be a constituent part of the International Red Cross.<sup>1</sup>

ART. 2. — As an association governed by Articles 60 and following of the Swiss Civil Code, the ICRC shall have legal personality.

ART. 3. — The headquarters of the ICRC shall be in Geneva.

Its emblem shall be a red cross on a white ground. Its motto shall be "Inter arma caritas".

ART. 4. — The special rôle of the ICRC shall be :

- (a) to maintain the fundamental and permanent principles of the Red Cross, namely : impartiality, action independent of any racial, political, religious or economic considerations, the universality of the Red Cross and the equality of the National Red Cross Societies ;
- (b) to recognize any newly established or reconstituted National Red Cross Society which fulfils the conditions for recognition in force, and to notify other National Societies of such recognition ;

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<sup>1</sup> The International Red Cross comprises the National Red Cross Societies, the International Committee of the Red Cross and the League of Red Cross Societies. The term " National Red Cross Societies " includes the Red Crescent Societies and the Red Lion and Sun Society.

- (c) to undertake the tasks incumbent on it under the Geneva Conventions, to work for the faithful application of these Conventions and to take cognizance of any complaints regarding alleged breaches of the humanitarian Conventions ;
- (d) to take action in its capacity as a neutral institution, especially in case of war, civil war or internal strife ; to endeavour to ensure at all times that the military and civilian victims of such conflicts and of their direct results receive protection and assistance, and to serve, in humanitarian matters, as an intermediary between the parties ;
- (e) to contribute, in view of such conflicts, to the preparation and development of medical personnel and medical equipment, in co-operation with the Red Cross organizations, the medical services of the armed forces, and other competent authorities ;
- (f) to work for the continual improvement of humanitarian international law and for the better understanding and diffusion of the Geneva Conventions and to prepare for their possible extension ;
- (g) to accept the mandates entrusted to it by the International Conferences of the Red Cross.

The ICRC may also take any humanitarian initiative which comes within its rôle as a specifically neutral and independent institution and consider any questions requiring examination by such an institution.

ART. 6 (first paragraph). — The ICRC shall co-opt its members from among Swiss citizens. The number of members may not exceed twenty-five.



## ADDRESSES OF CENTRAL COMMITTEES

- AFGHANISTAN — Afghan Red Crescent, *Kabul*.
- ALBANIA — Albanian Red Cross, 35, Rruga Barrikadavet, *Tirana*.
- ALGERIA — Central Committee of the Algerian Red Crescent Society, 15 Boulevard Mohamed V, *Algiers*.
- ARGENTINE — Argentine Red Cross, H. Yrigoyen 2068, *Buenos Aires*.
- AUSTRALIA — Australian Red Cross, 122-128 Flinders Street, *Melbourne, C. 1*.
- AUSTRIA — Austrian Red Cross, 3 Gusshausstrasse, *Vienna IV*.
- BELGIUM — Belgian Red Cross, 98, Chaussée de Vleurgat, *Brussels 5*.
- BOLIVIA — Bolivian Red Cross, Avenida Simon-Bolivar, 1515 (Casilla 741), *La Paz*.
- BRAZIL — Brazilian Red Cross, Praça da Cruz Vermelha 10-12, *Rio de Janeiro*.
- BULGARIA — Bulgarian Red Cross, 1, Boul. S.S. Biruzov, *Sofia*.
- BURMA — Burma Red Cross, 42, Strand Road, Red Cross Building, *Rangoon*.
- BURUNDI — Red Cross Society of Burundi, P.O. Box 1037, *Usumbura*.
- CAMBODIA — Cambodian Red Cross, 17 R Vithei, P.O.B. 94, *Phnom-Penh*.
- CAMEROON — Central Committee of the Cameroon Red Cross Society, rue Henry-Dunant, P.O.B. 631, *Yaoundé*.
- CANADA — Canadian Red Cross, 95 Wellesley Street East, *Toronto 5*.
- CEYLON — Ceylon Red Cross, 106 Dharmapala Mawatte, *Colombo VII*.
- CHILE — Chilean Red Cross, Avenida Santa Maria 0150, Casilla 246 V., *Santiago de Chile*.
- CHINA — Red Cross Society of China, 22, Kanmien Hutung, *Peking, E*.
- COLOMBIA — Colombian Red Cross, Carrera 7a, 34-65 Apartado nacional 11-10, *Bogota*.
- CONGO — Red Cross of the Congo, 24, Avenue Valcke, P.O. Box 1712, *Leopoldville*.
- COSTA RICA — Costa Rican Red Cross, Calle 5a Sur, Apartado 1025, *San José*.
- CUBA — Cuban Red Cross, Ignacio Agramonte 461, *Havana*.
- CZECHOSLOVAKIA — Czechoslovak Red Cross, Thunovska 18, *Prague I*.
- DAHOMEY — Red Cross Society of Dahomey, P.O. Box 1, *Porto-Novo*.
- DENMARK — Danish Red Cross, Ny Vestergade 17, *Copenhagen K*.
- DOMINICAN REPUBLIC — Dominican Red Cross, Calle Galvan 24, Apartado 1293 *San Domingo*.
- ECUADOR — Ecuadorean Red Cross, Avenida Colombia y Elizalde 118, *Quito*.
- ETHIOPIA — Ethiopian Red Cross, Red Cross Road No. 1, P.O. Box 195, *Addis Ababa*.
- FINLAND — Finnish Red Cross, Tehtaankatu I A, *Helsinki*.
- FRANCE — French Red Cross, 17, rue Quentin-Bauchart, *Paris (8<sup>e</sup>)*.
- GERMANY (Dem. Republic) — German Red Cross in the German Democratic Republic, Kaitzerstrasse 2, *Dresden A. 1*.
- GERMANY (Federal Republic) — German Red Cross in the Federal Republic of Germany, Friedrich-Ebert-Allee 71, 5300 *Bonn 1*, Postfach (D.B.R.).
- GHANA — Ghana Red Cross, P.O. Box 835, *Accra*.
- GREAT BRITAIN — British Red Cross, 14 Grosvenor Crescent, *London, S.W.1*.
- GREECE — Hellenic Red Cross, rue Lycavittou 1, *Athens 135*.
- GUATEMALA — Guatemalan Red Cross, 3.<sup>a</sup> Calle 8-40 zona 1, *Guatemala C.A.*
- HAITI — Haiti Red Cross, rue Férou, *Port-au-Prince*.
- HONDURAS — Honduran Red Cross, Calle Henry Dunant 516, *Tegucigalpa*.
- HUNGARY — Hungarian Red Cross, Arany Janos utca 31, *Budapest V*.
- ICELAND — Icelandic Red Cross, Ølduggøtu 4 *Reykjavik*, Post Box 872.
- INDIA — Indian Red Cross, 1 Red Cross Road, *New Delhi 1*.
- INDONESIA — Indonesian Red Cross, Tanah Abang Barat 66, P.O. Box 2009, *Djakarta*.
- IRAN — Iranian Red Lion and Sun Society, Avenue Ark, *Teheran*.
- IRAQ — Iraqi Red Crescent, Al-Mansour, *Baghdad*.
- IRELAND — Irish Red Cross, 16 Merrion Square, *Dublin*.
- ITALY — Italian Red Cross, 12, via Toscana, *Rome*.
- IVORY COAST — Ivory Coast Red Cross Society, B.P. 1244, *Abidjan*.
- JAMAICA — Jamaica Red Cross Society, 76 Arnold Road, *Kingston 5*.
- JAPAN — Japanese Red Cross, 5 Shiba Park, Minato-Ku, *Tokyo*.
- JORDAN — Jordan Red Crescent, P.O. Box 1337, *Amman*.
- KOREA (Democratic Republic) — Red Cross Society of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, *Pyongyang*.
- KOREA (Republic) — The Republic of Korea National Red Cross, 32-3 Ka Nam San-Dong, *Seoul*.

## ADDRESSES OF CENTRAL COMMITTEES

- LAOS — Laotian Red Cross, *Vientiane*.
- LEBANON — Lebanese Red Cross, rue Général Spears, *Beirut*.
- LIBERIA — Liberian National Red Cross, Camp Johnson Road, P.O. Box 226, *Monrovia*.
- LIBYA — Libyan Red Crescent, Berka Omar Mukhtar Street, P.O. Box 541, *Benghazi*.
- LIECHTENSTEIN — Liechtenstein Red Cross, *Vaduz*.
- LUXEMBURG — Luxemburg Red Cross, Parc de la Ville, *Luxemburg*.
- MADAGASCAR — Red Cross Society of Madagascar, rue Clemenceau, P.O. Box 1168, *Tananarive*.
- MALAYA — Malaysian Red Cross Society, 519 Jalan Belfield, *Kuala Lumpur*.
- MEXICO — Mexican Red Cross, Sinaloa 20, 4º piso, *Mexico 7, D.F.*
- MONACO — Red Cross of Monaco, 27, Boul. de Suisse, *Monte-Carlo*.
- MONGOLIA — Red Cross Society of the Mongolian People's Republic, Central Post Office, Post Box 537, *Ulan-Bator*.
- MOROCCO — Moroccan Red Crescent, rue Calmette, *Rabat*.
- NEPAL — Nepal Red Cross Society, Tripureswore, P.B. 217, *Kathmandu*.
- NETHERLANDS — Netherlands Red Cross, 27 Prinsessegracht, *The Hague*.
- NEW ZEALAND — New Zealand Red Cross, 61 Dixon Street, P.O.B. 6073, *Wellington C.2*.
- NICARAGUA — Nicaraguan Red Cross, 12 Avenida Noroeste, *Managua, D.N.C.A.*
- NIGERIA — Nigerian Red Cross Society, 2 Makoko Road, Yaba, P.O. Box 764, *Lagos*.
- NORWAY — Norwegian Red Cross, Parkveien 33b, *Oslo*.
- PAKISTAN — Pakistan Red Cross, Frere Street, *Karachi 4*.
- PANAMA — Panamanian Red Cross, Apartado 668, *Panama*.
- PARAGUAY — Paraguayan Red Cross, calle André Barbero y Artigas 33, *Asunción*.
- PERU — Peruvian Red Cross, Jiron Chancay 881, *Lima*.
- PHILIPPINES — Philippine National Red Cross, 860 United Nations Avenue, P.O.B. 280, *Manila*.
- POLAND — Polish Red Cross, Mokotowska 14, *Warsaw*.
- PORTUGAL — Portuguese Red Cross, General Secretaryship, Jardim 9 de Abril, 1 a 5, *Lisbon 3*.
- RUMANIA — Red Cross of the Rumanian People's Republic, Strada Biserica Amzei 29, C.P. 729, *Bucarest*.
- SALVADOR — Salvador Red Cross, 3a Avenida Norte y 3a Calle Poniente 21, *San Salvador*.
- SAN MARINO — San Marino Red Cross, *San Marino*.
- SAUDI ARABIA — Saudi Arabian Red Crescent, *Riyadh*.
- SENEGAL — Senegalese Red Cross Society, Bld. Franklin-Roosevelt, P.O.B. 299, *Dakar*.
- SIERRA LEONE — Sierra Leone Red Cross Society, 6 Liverpool Street, P.O.B. 427, *Freetown*.
- SOUTH AFRICA — South African Red Cross, 14 Holland Street, P.O.B. 8726, *Johannesburg*.
- SPAIN — Spanish Red Cross, Eduardo Dato 16, *Madrid, 10*.
- SUDAN — Sudanese Red Crescent, P.O. Box 235, *Khartoum*.
- SWEDEN — Swedish Red Cross, Artillerigatan 6, *Stockholm 14*.
- SWITZERLAND — Swiss Red Cross, Taubenstrasse 8, *Berne*.
- SYRIA — Syrian Red Crescent, 13, rue Abi-Ala-Almaari, *Damascus*.
- TANZANIA — Tanzania Red Cross Society, Upanga Road, P.O.B. 1133, *Dar es Salaam*.
- THAILAND — Thai Red Cross Society, King Chulalongkorn Memorial Hospital, *Bangkok*.
- TOGO — Togolese Red Cross Society, Avenue des Alliés 19, P.O. Box 655, *Lomé*.
- TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO — Trinidad and Tobago Red Cross Society, 48 Pembroke Street, P.O. Box 357, *Port of Spain*.
- TUNISIA — Tunisian Red Crescent, 19, rue d'Angleterre, *Tunis*.
- TURKEY — Turkish Red Crescent, Yenisehir, *Ankara*.
- UGANDA — Uganda Red Cross, P.O. Box 294, *Kampala*.
- UNITED ARAB REPUBLIC — Red Crescent Society of the United Arab Republic, 34, rue Ramses, *Cairo*.
- UPPER VOLTA — Upper Volta Red Cross, P.O.B. 340, *Ouagadougou*.
- URUGUAY — Uruguayan Red Cross, Avenida 8 de Octubre, 2990, *Montevideo*.
- U.S.A. — American National Red Cross, 17th and D Streets, N.W., *Washington 6, D.C.*
- U.S.S.R. — Alliance of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, Kouznetsky Most 18/7, *Moscow k.31*.
- VENEZUELA — Venezuelan Red Cross, Avenida Andrés Bello No. 4, Apart. 3185, *Caracas*.
- VIET NAM (Democratic Republic) — Red Cross of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam, 68, rue Bà-Triệu, *Hanoi*.
- VIET NAM (Republic) — Red Cross of the Republic of Viet Nam, 201, đường Hồng-Thập-Tu, No. 201, *Saigon*.
- YUGOSLAVIA — Yugoslav Red Cross, Simina ulica broj 19, *Belgrade*.